

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18 AUGUST 2024

Readings for Sunday, August 18: Proverbs 9:1-6; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58.

Wisdom has prepared a banquet of food and wine, an image expressive of God’s communion with us. For those who desire life, Jesus gives his own flesh and blood. Thus we shall be filled with the Spirit.

Readings for Sunday, August 25: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69.



**St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Special Day of Prayer is Wednesday.
Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday after 9:00 A.M. Mass to 5:00 PM in the Church. Benediction at 5:00 PM.**



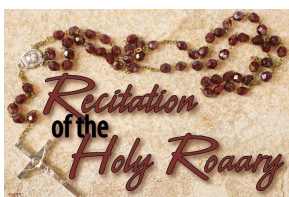
<u>Date</u>		<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
19 Aug.	MON. 9:00 AM	Margaret Bucciaglia	Jim & Anna Baldasano
20 Aug.	TUE. 9:00 AM	Helynne Mich	Bill & Jeanette Gatta
21 Aug.	WED. 9:00 AM	Vincent Leskusky	Wife, Carol
22 Aug.	THU. 9:00 AM	C. Ronald Yost	Wife, Theresa
24 Aug.	SAT. 4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother	
25 Aug.	SUN. 9:00 AM	Colette Sharp	Her Parents



ETERNAL REST grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.
PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING of the parish especially those in homes and hospitals.
REMEMBER OUR TROOPS: Pray that God will bless and protect our young men and women in the military.



NOVENA IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL on Mondays after the 9:00 AM Mass. All are welcome to join in this special Marian Devotion.



THE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP leads the recitation of the Rosary every Sunday before the 9:00 AM Mass. They also pray the Rosary before the 9:00 AM weekday Masses. All

are welcome to join in these Marian Devotions.



MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIPTIONS:
 Cost for one year is \$39.00. Subscription begins with **NOVEMBER 2024** issue. Anyone interested in subscribing, please call the Parish Office. **Deadline to sign up is Monday, August 19.**

MAGNIFICAT BOOKS - Those who purchased the Magnificat can pick up their **SEPTEMBER** issue at the Parish Office.

LOST WEEK

Collections at PPC thank you

DEPOSIT FOR AUGUST 11, 2024 \$3,430
2024-2025 Year to Date Collections \$24,876

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND, August 24 and 25, will be the Gold 50/50 Envelope to support Religious Education.

CONSIDER REMEMBERING YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL.
Call the Parish Office for more details.

“ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK”

O'DONNELL, WEISS & MATTEI, P.C.
610-323-2800

MASS ATTENDANCE for August 10/11:

4:00 PM Mass - 119
9:00 AM Mass - 128
Total Attendance - 247



APPAREL ALERT! Orders are being accepted for our parish apparel. Items available are: T-Shirt - \$10; Sweatshirt with hood - \$25; Men’s and Women’s Polo Shirts - \$25. Colors available are Kelly Green and Sunburst Yellow. 1/4 Zip - \$35; Full Zip hoodies - \$30 - color is Forest Green.

Logo on all apparel is in the upper left corner. Sizes: S to XL - larger sizes are available (just add \$2) and we have youth sizes too! **PROMOTE YOUR PARISH!!!** Complete the order form in the vestibule of Church and return to the parish office along with payment or contact Maria Boyer (mboyer@sgsm62.org).



CHURCH MAGNETS are available at the Parish Office. They can be placed on your car or refrigerator. Cost is \$5.00 each.



PARISH LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET based on the PA Pick 3 Evening Number. Winning ticket number must be the exact number drawn for the PA Pick 3 Evening Number.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and are sold on a monthly basis. The prize for the winning ticket is \$50.00 on weekdays and \$100.00 on Sundays and one specially-designated weekday. **This is our major fund raiser for the parish. We encourage each family to purchase at least one ticket each month. Your support is greatly appreciated.**

LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

JULY FIGURES: 238 tickets sold - \$1190.00. Payout to winners - \$400.00. Cost of tickets - \$100.00. Profit for July - \$690.00.

- August 5 - #713 - Tom Reilly - \$50.00
- August 6 - #748 - unsold
- August 7 - #799 - unsold
- August 8 - #839 - Shirley Mohn - \$50.00
- August 9 - #072 - unsold
- August 10 - #649 - unsold
- August 11 - #273 - unsold



American Red Cross

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

on August 19 and September 3 and 16 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the social hall. The Red Cross blood supply is rapidly dropping as hospital needs are outpacing donations coming in. You can help overcome the shortage! Come give blood in August and get a \$20 Amazon.com gift card by email. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.



SAVE THE DATE - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

We are planning a Bus Trip to Sight & Sound Theatre on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 to see “Noah.” Cost: \$170.00 which

includes motorcoach transportation, lunch, tax & gratuity for lunch, show and tip for the bus driver. Make plans now to attend!

The Corner

If you doubt God's love, it's just the wounds you carry.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - AUGUST 24/25

4:00 PM Mass

Lector - Nester

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Durante & Durante; Choir, George

Altar Server - Wasylkowski

Greeter - Wade

9:00 AM Mass

Lector - Willemsen

Ministers of Holy Communion - Front, Deacon; Break, Gerasimowicz & Bernhard

Altar Servers - Holmes & Tran

Greeter - Neiman

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CASEY SERVICE CLUB

Sunday Morning Breakfast on Sunday, August 25 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Bacon, sausage, ham, eggs to order, omelets, pancakes and waffles. Cost is based on your selection.

Casey Service 200 Club - Ticket raffle - \$120.00 per ticket, 200 tickets total. Drawing on first Saturday of September at 4:00 PM at Casey Services Pavilion, Stowe. Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets in the vestibule of Church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LADIES AUXILIARY is always accepting new members. To join, you need to be at least 18 years old and Catholic. New meetings will begin in September at the Knights of Columbus Lodge, Stowe. If interested, contact Lori LaRosa (610-326-6030).

EVENTS AT NATIONAL PADRE PIO CENTRE, BALLY

Catholic Cinema Sundays for Children - Sunday, September 8 from 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM. *Brother Francis: The Story of Mary*. Presented on the "big screen" in the Spirituality Center. There is no cost to attend, and no registration is necessary. We will celebrate the Blessed Mother's birthday with cake at 12:30 PM. For more details contact angela@padrepio.org.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father,
in Your plan for our salvation
You provide shepherds for Your
people. Fill Your Church in the
Archdiocese of Philadelphia,
especially St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish,
with the Spirit of courage and love.
Raise up from our families future
priests; worthy ministers for Your
altars, generous and ardent
servants of the Gospel.
We ask this through
Christ our Lord. Amen.




*"Pray for all seminarians, that they may
persevere in their calling. Please pray
for all priests and for the success of their
ministry among God's people. And please
pray the Lord of the harvest to send more
laborers into His vineyard, the Church."*

Pope St. John Paul II
Address to Seminarians
St. Martin's Chapel
October 3, 1979

PERMANENT DIACONATE INFORMATION SESSION -
Discover your vocation. Are you being called to serve?
Join us for an informative evening exploring the Permanent
Diaconate on Thursday, September 19 from 7:00 PM to
9:00 PM at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, 1400 Evans
Rd., Amber. This session is open to Catholic men (and their
wives, if married) ages 29 to 55. Engage with a panel of
clergy and learn about discerning a vocation to the
Permanent Diaconate and the School for Diaconal
Formation program. Learn more at
www.archphila.org/deacon or www.scs.edu/diaconal-formation.

HOPE IN CHRIST:
Spiritual Support for Addiction



Find Catholic support for you or your loved one struggling with addiction at:

archphila.org/hope

Catholic Events • Support Groups
Retreats • Personal Stories
Patron Saints • Healing Ministries
• and more •

A website provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia

*Come as you are.
You are welcome here.*



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays 9:30 a.m.
beginning September 18, 2024

Cost: \$48

Please register here: 

Or Contact Sophie Schneible
Sschneible@saintalloysius.net
610-326-5877 ext. 426



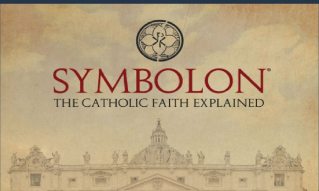

Be Encouraged:
Catholic Support for Mental Health



Resources to assist with healing, accompaniment and flourishing

archphila.org/support

Take the first step to peace, love, and faith.

JOIN THE JOURNEY AT ST. ALOYSIUS

SYMBOLON: THE CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLAINED

Open to all adults: Anyone interested in becoming Catholic or anyone already a member

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THURSDAY NIGHTS STARTING SEPTEMBER 12 AT 7:00-8:30

LOWER LEVEL OF GATHERING CENTER

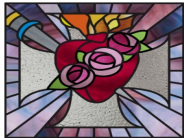
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2024 Catholic Women's Conference

The Joys of Womanhood

SACRED, BELOVED, & BEAUTIFUL



Saturday, October 19
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Czestochowa Shrine
Doylestown

Keynotes:
Fr. Stephen DeLacy
Emily Wilson

Full details & registration:
catholicwomensconference.org

FAMILY LIFE AND THE EUCHARIST WITH SCOTT & KIMBERLY HAHN on Saturday, September 14 from 7:15 AM to 3:10 PM at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Lansdale. Cost: \$25 - Students and Seniors; \$35 - Adults. Registration is being handled by the St. Paul Center at www.StPaulCenter.com/Lansdale2024/.



Father! Father! Excuse me, Father! Mass was over that Sunday evening, but I was yet in the sanctuary over by the Blessed Mother statue. I turned to see a man standing there. He looked to be about in his late thirties or early forties.



He was wearing a bluish gray suit, white collared shirt and tie. The jacket was just a little too big for him and slightly wrinkled. His pants were too short, well above the beige color shoes that didn't quite match with the suit. It looked like his wardrobe may have come from the Salvation Army. He was clean shaven with short, yellow brown hair neatly combed to the side. He stood there and smiled. *Do you remember me, Father?* Honestly, I didn't. Then, I stared just a little bit more intently at his face. It was the eyes. It is always the eyes. They



were a deep and dark blue; rather penetrating. I opened my mouth raising my hand pointing to him, but as I started to speak, he interrupted. *Yes, Father, it's John.* The last time that I saw John, he had longer hair hanging down and a rather unkempt beard. He

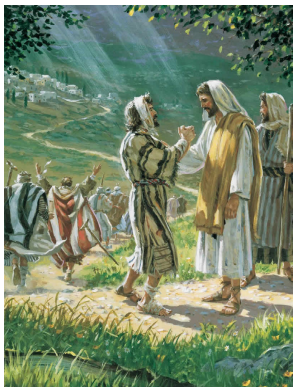


hadn't been dressed in a blazer either, but a bright orange jumpsuit. That's how he faithfully served Mass with me at the correctional facility, otherwise known as prison. I don't remember the details of his incarceration that he shared with me, but I do

remember his admitting that he had made mistakes in his life. Haven't we all? Prison ministry is interesting, though I have to admit that I don't think that I would want to do it full time. The portrayal of prisons that one might see on TV is pretty accurate. There are concrete and



cinderblock walls; heavy, clanging metal doors; barred cells; and crude language. One has to be "buzzed in" or "buzzed out" of everything and the noise level is constant and can be deafening at times. There is zero privacy. One time I was stuck in a secured stairwell for about fifteen minutes because the officer on watch had his back to me and he couldn't hear my voice. *Hello! Hey! Hello!*



Another time I was on lock-down for about thirty minutes, because of some facility incident. When responders fully decked out in riot gear and drawn weapons literally come charging towards you, trust me, you hug a wall and stay put until the "all clear" is given. I had a captive audience in the prison chapel (poor pun, I know) and they



were well behaved for the most part. Ever present guards tend to make that happen. John, I recall, was always the gentleman and unlike many of the inmates that professed their innocence, he admitted his guilt. Even though he was not a parishioner at the parish where I was at the time, he went to the trouble of looking me up. He came to Mass that evening to tell me that he had been released and simply to

say, "thank you!" I was amazed – and humbled. The change in John's appearance on the outside served to reflect his greater change on the inside and he admitted as much as he beamed happily. He wanted to "dress-up" for this occasion and make a good impression before me. I, in turn, thanked him. I sent him off with a handshake and hug with the offer of my prayers. John said that he hoped that he would make it with his second chance in life. I told him that in reality, he already had. It all began with his admission of wrongdoing and the desire to change all while determined to be a man of Faith – one with enough courage and the humility to return and say "thanks."

Peace!

Fr. Wilson